AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A device for separating a biological component, which comprises magnetically responsive particles and a chip obtained by adhering a pair of substrates, which comprise one or multiple grooves formed on at least one surface thereof, with the groove(s) placed inside.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said groove forms, within the chip, at least one compartment and a flow passage communicating with the compartment.

3. (Original) The device of claim 2, wherein said groove has a protrusion protruding into the compartment.

4. (Currently Amended) The device of ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the biological component is a nucleic acid.

5. (Original) The device of claim 4, wherein the magnetically responsive particles further comprise silica.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of separating a biological component from a liquid sample comprising the biological component, which uses a device of ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, and comprises the following steps (a) - (d):

(a) a step of holding the device such that the adhesion surface of the pair of substrates is about perpendicular to the horizontal direction,

(b) a step of adsorbing the biological component to magnetically responsive particles by contacting the magnetically responsive particles with the liquid sample containing the biological component,

(c) a step of separating the magnetically responsive particles comprising the biological component adsorbed thereto from the liquid sample, and

(d) a step of separating the biological component from the magnetically responsive particles.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the magnetically responsive particles comprise ferromagnetic particles.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 ~~or 7~~, wherein the step (c) is performed by moving the magnetically responsive particles by application of a magnetic field.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any of claims 6 to 8~~ claim 6, wherein the step (d) is performed by dissolving the biological component in a solvent.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any of claims 6 to 9~~ claim 6, wherein the step (d) comprises a step of separating the biological component from the magnetically responsive particles by applying an electric field.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any of claims 6 to 10~~ claim 6, wherein at least one of the steps is automatically controlled.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any of claims 6 to 11~~ claim 6, wherein the biological component is a nucleic acid.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the magnetically responsive particles further comprise silica.